

Garden bike storage

The new Scottish Government rules on permitted development rights (PDR) came into force on April 1st 2021, after a [lengthy Spokes campaign](#). Below is our first subsequent happy customer!

6 March 2021

Hi Spokes

Your email actually made my year - so lucky I emailed you. We were getting so fed up trailing bikes through the house, although it's even worse not going out on them because you can't be bothered with the hassle! This is fantastic news.

I can see the link to join spokes - I'll get my membership sorted. I'd also really like to make a donation - you've saved us a planning fee at least. We will definitely hold off until the start of April, and do all the things you suggest.

Thank you again!

On Sun, Feb 21, 2021 at 10:15 AM Goff Cantley, for Spokes, wrote:

Hello XXXX,

We are delighted to say that our submission to Scottish Government was entirely successful. We will be allowed sheds meeting the Spokes dimensions in front and side gardens from 1st April 2021, with no planning permission required! This is under new Permitted Development Rights legislation. (Maximum size 2.5m long x 1.2m deep x 1.5m high) We are particularly pleased that the new legislation applies even in Conservation Areas. It does not however apply to listed buildings - are you by any chance living in a listed building?

We would still strongly recommend taking the measures that we recommend in our Cycle Storage in Gardens Factsheet which is to talk to your neighbours, ideally making sure that they are content with your plans, screen your shed with hedging or planting of some kind, as far as possible, and choose a discrete colour for your shed. We say this because the local authorities opposed the change in the legislation, fearing the impact on amenity, and the legislation could possibly be amended or reversed, if this fear becomes the reality! We are discussing a revision to the Factsheet to reflect this huge change.

I hope that you can hold off your plans for another few weeks, just to see the legislation come into effect, but you could be talking to your neighbours, planting screening and preparing the base in the meantime. Consider security carefully because cycle theft is currently big business and front and side garden sheds are more visible and hence vulnerable to forced entry. Locking bikes to a fixed object in the shed is vital, with the help of, say, a ground anchor.

The best way of keeping in touch with developments is just to be a Spokes member and thereby receive periodic news of cycling developments. You can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Good luck with your new shed.

From: XXXX

Date: Sat, 20 Feb 2021 at 23:14

Subject: Bike sheds in front gardens, edinburgh

To: <spokes@spokes.org.uk>

Hello,

I've been reading your information on bike sheds in front of properties in Edinburgh with interest, and see you recently made a submission to the government to do away with the £200 planning fee. Do you think the chances of this happening is reasonable?

We live in a mid terrace house in Colinton (conservation area). We've got two wee ones - traipsing our bikes through the house is impractical and puts us off taking them out. The planning fee really puts me off, especially as I reckon they would decline anyway given the conservation area status.

Hopefully they'll get rid of the planning requirement!

Is there anyway of being kept upto date on developments please?

Thank you for all your good work,